

## Leave no one behind in the extractive sector

### What role does LNOB play in the extractive sector?

'Leave no one behind' (LNOB) is a guiding principle of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which was adopted in 2015. It provides the global framework for the 17 Sustainable Development Goals set by the United Nations, with a focus on achieving the objectives related to empowerment and the participation of marginalised groups. LNOB aims at ensuring that people in extreme poverty and vulnerable groups have a greater influence on development processes. This involves addressing the structural causes of inequality and discrimination. The information provided below places the principle of LNOB specifically in the context of the extractive sector, with the aim of taking a more targeted look at LNOB through work in this area.



© GIZ/Elsa Scholte: As a principle, LNOB is not restricted to individual groups – it is always context-specific and focuses on multiple discrimination. This image shows a woman working in artisanal mining in a rural region.

### What can German development cooperation do in this sector?

Putting LNOB into practice helps ensure that the work of German development cooperation is effective and sustainable in qualitative terms. LNOB can make a difference in the extractive sector in the following areas:

- **Education** Further education and training for artisanal miners
- **Promoting legal frameworks** Supporting the implementation of international human rights and social standards \* Formalising artisanal mining \* Facilitating dialogue between government, civil society and business \* Equal participation and working conditions for women \* Prohibiting exploitative child labour \* Access to information about social and environmental impacts
- **Boosting the economy through mining** Diversifying the minerals sector \* Encouraging local value creation \* Developing and implementing mechanisms for the redistribution of mining revenues \* Promoting social and labour standards (occupational health and safety) \* Empowering women economically and in terms of human rights \* Protection and rights for informal workers \* Avoiding human rights risks (including for marginalised groups)
- **Environmental standards** Mine closures and land restoration \* Recycling \* Carrying out participatory environmental impact assessments before licences are granted \* Involving neighbouring communities in monitoring standards
- **Supporting the enforcement of human rights** Advice on mechanisms for enforcing planned legislation \* Due diligence along supply chains \* ILO core labour standards \* Educating local people about their rights \* Operationalising the principle of 'free, prior and informed consent' (FPIC) \* Grievance mechanism

- **Information and health** Supporting accessible and culturally appropriate information structures, e.g. regarding further education and training, health, legal options and social, economic and environmental impacts \* Monitoring the effects of mining on local communities \* Collecting disaggregated data
- **Creating synergies with other principles of development cooperation** such as 'building back better' ('risk informed development' approach) \* Inclusive disaster risk management (DRM)

## Target groups and structural inequality

In the extractive sector, LNOB primarily concerns the people and groups listed below, which are particularly affected by marginalisation, poverty, inequality and often multiple discrimination:

**Artisanal miners:** Around 40 million people across the world are involved in artisanal mining – mostly as informal workers. They are often required to work in unsafe and insecure conditions without sufficient occupational health and safety measures, in areas under the control of armed rebels and where there is both legal and illegal mining activity.

**Children and young people:** There is a danger of exploitative child labour in this sector, with around one million children working in the mining industry worldwide. A lack of legal regulations and enforcement mechanisms combined with few schools and vocational training opportunities means a lack of economic opportunities. Children are also particularly vulnerable to health problems and health risks caused by mining.

**Indigenous people:** In regions that are rich in raw materials, artisanal and large-scale mining often end up destroying livelihoods and lead to violent conflicts. Every year, around 15 million indigenous people are forcibly resettled as a result of major investment and development projects, especially in the extractive sector. The right to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) is often disregarded. Indigenous people are also disproportionately affected by historical discrimination, racism and poverty.

**Women:** Women make up around 10% of those employed in industrial mining – the figure being as high as 30-50% in artisanal mining. These women are often affected by

structural discrimination, unequal pay and a lack of health and safety protection. On top of this, they are at risk of sexual violence and prostitution within the mining environment.

## People affected by social and environmental impacts:

This concerns matters such as the water supply in neighbouring communities. Mining not only requires vast quantities of water, but can also lead to toxic substances being released into rivers and groundwater. This can have harmful consequences, including biodiversity loss, soil degradation, health problems, water pollution and livelihoods being deprived. As a result, people can find themselves pushed into poverty and marginalised, which in turn fuels an increase in prostitution, sexual violence and social conflicts.

## How can LNOB be incorporated into project work?

- Holistic analysis: identify **context-specific** human rights risks and establish links with LNOB, identify LNOB 'blind spots' (see causes below)
- Get a clear idea about the groups targeted by the project's advisory services and tailor the advice to the **target group**
- Incorporate LNOB into the **dialogue** with partners and commissioning parties as a joint commitment to the 2030 Agenda and develop ideas for activities as part of this dialogue where required
- Firmly establish LNOB in the **brief assessment** and make it a subject of discussion with the commissioning party
- **Analyse** the potential negative **impacts on marginalised groups and develop and implement measures to mitigate them** ('do no harm' principle, safeguards, human rights impact assessments, policy impact assessments)
- Identify potentials for **enhancing effectiveness** and increasing the participation of vulnerable groups (with particular emphasis on identifying levers)
- **Factor in** the time, resources and expertise required for taking marginalised groups into account

## How can LNOB indicators be developed?

LNOB-sensitive indicators focusing directly on vulnerable groups need to be developed. These should be embedded at all levels (impact, outcome, output) as far as possible. Monitoring should be ensured by setting out a baseline value, interim targets, milestones and final objectives/final values.

### Causes of marginalisation:

- Discrimination (multiple discrimination, socio-cultural norms, etc.) – e.g. discrimination of female informal workers in artisanal mining
- Geographical aspects (urban/rural) – e.g. isolation and inequality based on where a person lives
- Legal and political participation (lack of access to governmental institutions or such institutions proving ineffective, laws that result in unequal treatment, corruption) – e.g. impeding the participation of indigenous people
- Socio-economic status (unequal pay, different educational opportunities, insufficient access to clean water and sanitation) – e.g. existing differences in pay for male and female workers in the mining sector
- Shocks and fragility (natural disasters, impacts of climate change, corruption in political infrastructure) – e.g. marginalised groups are usually hit harder by the consequences of disasters

### What type of indicator is suitable for this?

**Targeted:** Focusing on a marginalised section of the population (e.g. women) – this makes sense for projects with a specific target group or measures that affect just one target group in particular (e.g. forced prostitution). A subgroup can also be introduced if required (e.g. women from an ethnic minority).

**Broken down:** Forming comparison groups within a marginalised group, e.g. average income of people living in a mining environment, broken down by gender, age and disability.

**Differentiated by group:** Comparing the situation of disadvantaged groups to that of the general population, e.g. looking at the impact on indigenous people of opening a mine compared to the rest of the population.

## Best practices

The projects described below demonstrate ways of establishing LNOB in the extractive sector:



### Latin America



#### **Regional cooperation for sustainable mining management in the Andean region**

–The MinSus programme has teamed up with the Ibero-American Foundation of Ombudsmen (FIO), which brings together more than 100 national human rights institutions in the Andean region, along with ombudspersons, buyers, suppliers and commission merchants. The aim of this partnership is to use cooperation and dialogue to promote positive contributions towards achieving the 2030 Agenda objectives and to reduce environmental and social risks. The programme also provides support for the ombudspersons to help them improve their grievance mechanisms. In addition to this, it is advising Colombia's Ministry of Mines and Energy on how to optimise and implement its gender strategy.



#### **Climate-friendly and energy-efficient mining in Colombia and Chile**

– This project has been running training schemes on the topic of gender for companies involved in industrial mining. One of the aims of this is to help increase the proportion of women in large mining enterprises. It has also been providing training on social conflicts for political implementation partners. Further workshops on the safeguards for gender and environment are planned, since traditionally, women have been disproportionately affected by negative environmental impacts. The workshops are designed to look at the link between negative environmental impacts and gender inequality.

## Central Asia



**Promoting good governance in Afghanistan's extractive sector II (MinGov)** – This project supports mining communities through community-based monitoring processes at provincial level to help ensure that environmental and social issues will be considered when managing mining activities in the future. This gives local communities the opportunity to express criticism, put forward suggestions and demand more accountability as part of multi-actor dialogue events. The community-based monitoring processes take into account the role played by women in the mining sector. To combat discrimination against women and improve their employment prospects at the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP), the project is providing support for developing and implementing a gender policy for the ministry with the aim of eliminating existing gender inequalities. MinGov also offers training designed to develop the skills of female employees at the MoMP and improve their chances of advancing their careers.

## Africa



**Integrated economic development in the mining sector (Mauritania)** – This project follows two different approaches. In the industrial sector, it is promoting local value creation and local employment so that communities in the surrounding areas can also benefit from the income generated by mines. Regarding artisanal mining, the project is carrying out a study on mercury-free alternatives of gold extraction, which would be safer and more efficient (e.g. borax). It is also offering health and safety training to artisanal miners. The project is playing a part in structuring the artisanal mining industry, ensuring transparency and combating corruption.



**Curbing trade in conflict minerals (ICGLR)** – This project operates primarily at the level of regional and national policy, working to set up structures that enhance the traceability of 3TG minerals and facilitate responsible supply chains. The certification mechanism supported by the project prevents funds from going towards financing

armed groups and serious human rights violations, including exploitative child labour (implemented in Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burundi and Tanzania). The project also supports gender mainstreaming in artisanal mining in Rwanda and Uganda (preventing discrimination and unequal pay, ensuring safe working conditions and health protection, providing protection against sexual violence, business training, etc.). Through its work, the project is helping to professionalise artisanal mining in Rwanda (training schemes are planned on the topics of preventing water pollution, soil degradation and damages to health as well as reducing the risk of mine collapses and landslides).



**Integrated economic development in the mining sector in DR Congo** – This project promotes education and training in artisanal cobalt mining in the south-eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo (known as the 'Copperbelt') and provides guidance for mining cooperatives in undertaking their activities to help them meet international mining standards. The focus is particularly on standards relating to human rights (with a specific emphasis on putting an end to exploitative child labour), women's rights, workers' rights and the environment. In connection with this, a catalogue of standards is being developed and information and training modules are being set up. The project is also encouraging local employment by supporting education and training for Congolese workers, particularly with regard to the technical requirements that apply in the mining industry. The project promotes local subcontracting, thus helping to boost the competitiveness of Congolese MSMEs.



**Regional mineral resource governance in Western Africa** – This project aims to stabilise mineral-rich but fragile regions and provides support at regional and national level for schemes such as the implementation of the Kimberley Process with a specific focus on gender in the Mano River Union. It also helps artisanal miners to organise themselves into cooperatives, thus playing a part in formalising the artisanal mining industry. This involves training the miners in applying safer, more efficient and more environmentally friendly mining methods (e.g. by using alternatives to mercury for gold extraction or stabilising pits) and strengthening their often fragile

position with regard to mine operators and mineral traders. Training is also provided for artisanal miners, operators and representatives from civil society and mining supervisory authorities to educate them about the requirements of the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas. In addition, the project is helping the environmental authorities in the individual countries to draw up audit guidelines for ensuring compliance with social and environmental standards and working to raise awareness amongst communities living around industrial mines of their rights with regard to mining activities and their impact. In terms of gender equality, the project has been running leadership training programmes in partnership with the women's rights organisation Women on Mining and Extractive in Sierra Leone and promoting civil society organisations with a specific focus on gender equality.

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